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*Agency of Transportation*

June 20, 2014

Bulletin 14-04

## 2014 LEGISLATIVE LAW CHANGES

Act No. 189 is recently passed legislation relating to miscellaneous amendments to laws related to motor vehicles. The following provisions are of interest to Licensed Dealers:

### Dealer Plates \* \* \*

The number of plates a licensed used or new car dealer may be issued has been changed as follows:

### FEES AND NUMBER PLATES

An application for dealer's registration shall be accompanied by a fee of \$370.00 for each certificate issued in such dealer's name. The Commissioner shall furnish free of charge with each dealer's registration certificate three number plates showing the distinguishing number assigned such dealer. The Commissioner may furnish further sets of additional plates at a fee of \$40.00 per set according to the volume of the dealer's sales in the prior year or, in the case of an initial registration, according to the dealer's reasonable estimate of expected sales, as follows:

- (A) under 20 sales: 0 additional plates;
- (B) 20–49 sales: 1 additional plate;
- (C) 50–99 sales: up to 5 additional plates;
- (D) 100–249 sales: up to 12 additional plates;
- (E) 250–499 sales: up to 17 additional plates;
- (F) 500–749 sales: up to 27 additional plates;
- (G) 750–999 sales: up to 37 additional plates;
- (H) 1,000–1,499 sales: up to 47 additional plates;
- (I) 1,500 or more: up to 57 additional plates.

If the issuance of additional plates is authorized, up to two plates shall be provided free of charge, and the Commissioner shall collect \$40.00 for each additional plate thereafter.

### TRANSITION PROVISION; DEALER PLATES

The Commissioner may enforce compliance with this act on a rolling basis as dealer registrations expire over the 24-month period following the effective date of this act. Over this 24-month period, upon receiving the renewal application of a dealer who has been issued plates in excess of the limits established in 23 V.S.A. § 453(a)(1), the Commissioner shall require the dealer to return plates that exceed the limits established in 23 V.S.A. § 453(a)(1).

## STUDY OF USE OF DEALER PLATES ON TOWING VEHICLES

The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall study the use of dealer plates on towing service vehicles and formulate recommendations as to whether the existing law authorizing such use should be repealed, amended, or retained in its existing form. In conducting this study, the Commissioner shall review the laws of other jurisdictions and consult with interested persons, including a cross-section of dealers.

On or before January 15, 2015, the Commissioner shall report his or her findings and recommendations to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation.

### Definition of Business Day or Working Day \* \* \*

Business day or working day means any calendar day except Saturday, Sunday, or any day classified as a holiday under 1 V.S.A. § 371.

### Autocycles \* \* \*

The definition of motorcycle has been changed as follows to include an "Autocycle":

Motorcycle shall mean any motor vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, and shall include autocycles, but exclude motor-driven cycles, golf carts, track driven vehicles, tractors and electric personal assistive mobility devices.

Autocycle means a three-wheeled motorcycle in which the occupants sit with their legs forward; is designed to be controlled with a steering wheel and pedals; and is equipped with safety belts for all occupants.

A fully enclosed autocycle means an autocycle equipped with a windshield and that has full top and side enclosures capable of supporting the vehicle's weight and protecting the occupants when the vehicle is resting on the enclosures.

Operators of autocycles shall be exempt from the requirements to obtain a motorcycle learner's permit or a motorcycle endorsement.

These laws take effect on July 1, 2014. If you want to look at Act No. 189, you may view it on the Legislative website: <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/DOCS/2014/ACTS/ACT189.PDF>

If you have questions on the laws, you may contact your District Motor Vehicle Investigator, or call the Dealer Unit at 828-2038, or email [Kathy.Codling@state.vt.us](mailto:Kathy.Codling@state.vt.us).



Robert D. Ide  
Commissioner